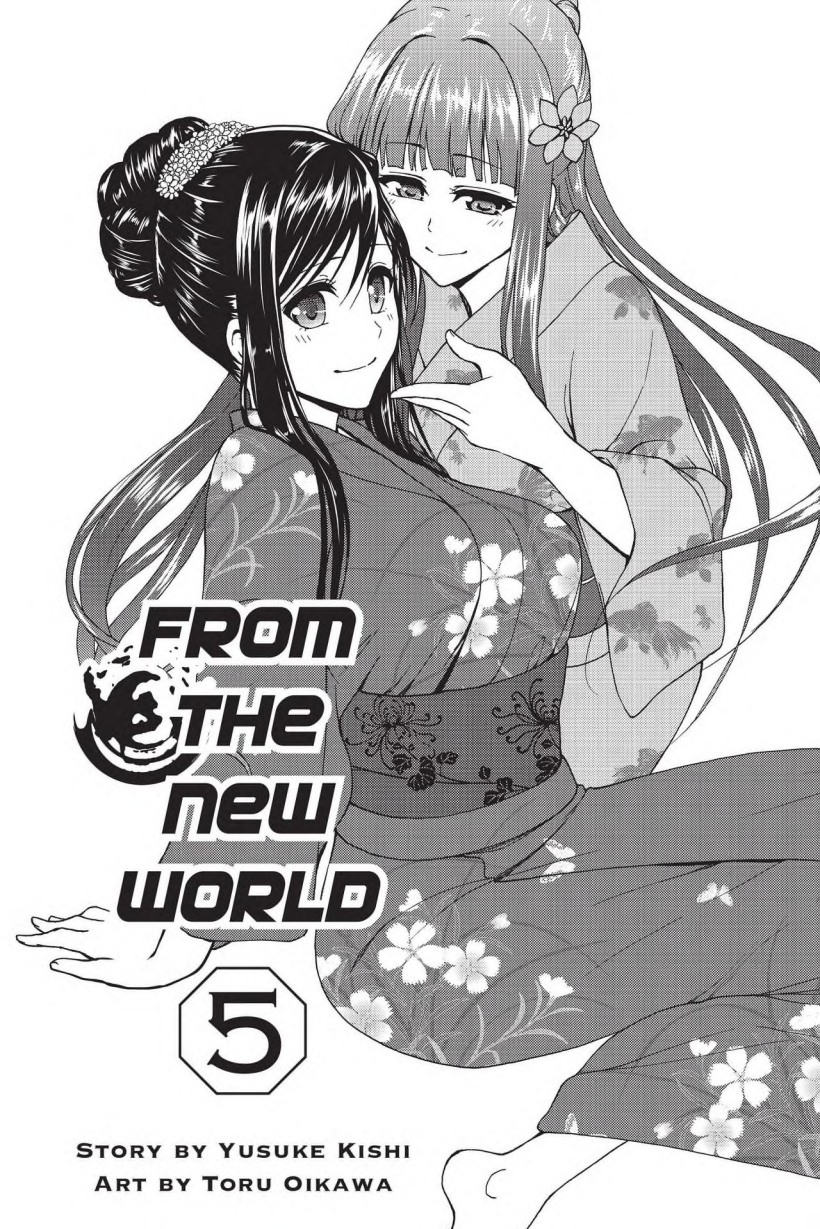
FROM THE NEW WORLD

5

Story by Yusuke Kishi

Art by Toru Oikawa



Story by Yusuke Kishi
Art by Toru Oikawa

Squealer

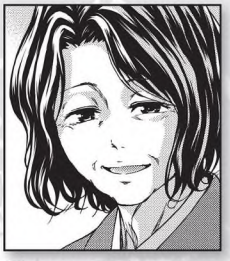
A savvy Morph Rat. Prolocutor turned Representative of the Robber Fly colony. Revolts against humans and plans to eradicate them.

Kiromaru

Former commander-in-chief of the Giant Hornet colony whose forces were wiped out by the Robber Flies.

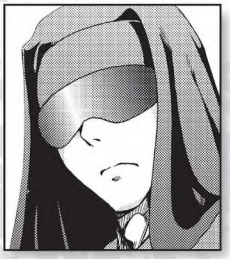
The story thus far...

Six years after graduating from the Holistic Class, Saki and Satoru are 26 and have settled into their respective careers. Unfulfilled promises to their friends and distaste over becoming adults weigh down on their minds as the days peacefully pass them by. One day, news arrives: The forces of the Giant Hornet colony have been wiped out. The world of the Morph Rats has changed, but what truly shakes the two is the announcement of Maria and Mamoru's deaths. Then, on the night of the Summer Festival, after Satoru's marriage proposal, Saki witnesses the onset of the Robber Flies' genocidal rebellion. The humans, rescued from despair by Shisei, strike back. Saki's group heads to the hospital, only to encounter a Fiend!



Tomiko Asahina

The highest ranking official in Kamisu 66 Acreage. Has protected the town for over two centuries.



Shisei Kaburagi

Security Council Advisor. His transcendent magick abilities are touted as the "Strongest."

Kofu Hino

Vocations Council Rep. Was one of the "Highest" magick users on par with Shisei until his death at the hands of Morph Rats.

Reiko Amano

Disposed of via Cats of Impurity because she was unable to control her magick.

Shun Aonuma

A prodigy with whom Saki was mutually enamored. As a Karma Demon he left this world.

Maria Akizuki

Best friends with Saki. Pretty with a strong will. Targeted for disposal, she skipped town.

Mamoru Ito

Artistically talented and quiet. Escaped with his beloved Maria in order to protect her.

CHARACTERS

FROM THE NEW WORLD

PROFILES

Saki Watanabe

In addition to an unusually stout mind, she can repair her own DNA. At age 26, others see her as a future leader. She works at the town's health center's non-humans section and observes Morph Rats in the field.

Satoru Asahina

A childhood friend of Saki, he was in her grade at Harmony Academy and the Holistic Class. Having done well in school, he now experiments with selective breeding and genetics at the Saddharma Farm.

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Chapter 16
Conflagration

TURN
?!
KACHIK
...
THUP
THUP
THUP
We... made it?
Why didn't It—
Shit! N-No, don't !!
Stay away !!
This voice. Mr. Nogu-chi?!

I have to help ...
GAA AAA AAH !!
DASH
Now's our chance! Run!!
KLACK
Stop! Sto- Aaaa agh!!
I feel so... power- less!!
I would be like a Morph Rat defying a human... I'd simply get killed.
... but I can't!
...

Ms. Seki! We need to leave now!
Please !!
Haaah haah
DASH
No ...
What are you...
Ms. Seki won't go outside...
Ms. Seki, please !!
Haaah
Haaah
Haah
Haaah
Haah
Haaah

You two should go on ahead.
I'll stay here and hide with Ms. Seki.
Ms. Okano?! What're you saying?
We should escape to-gether!
Please, go quickly. At this rate we'll all be killed.
If you two don't let them know of the Fiend...
this town will be no more.
But ...
It's all right. Besides ...

Ouchi might still be
hiding somewhere in this hospital.

I couldn't possibly leave him alone.
Ms. Okano
...

Let's set out!
Come on, Saki!!

Is that Mr. Noguchi ?!
Saki, don't look!
?!
!
AA AAA HHH HHH !!
... it's you

Who the
HELL ARE YOU!!

Let's hurry.
We should be safe now.

SPLOSH
SPLASH

Let us in your boat!!
Kid?
Please wait!
?!
Hey, you two!

Um... well...
Hey!
Groups of five! Where are the other three?
Rustle *Rustle*
Thank you for stopping.

I told you to keep your trap shut!
Idiot.
R-Right...

Where is the rest of your group?
All three of them were killed.
It was dark and we couldn't really see what happened.
but it was probably the Morph Rats...

They were killed
by a Fiend that appeared at the hospital.

That Fiend must have been Squealer's ace in the hole.
...
I agree... The Giant Hornet forces were probably destroyed by its magick as well.

H-Hey, Sho...
Shouldn't we tell them the whole story? I don't like this...
Shut up, Yā tart.
...

What do you think you're saying, boy?!
Stop calling people names!
Keep quiet, you ugly cat.
Tiny hit-wit.
Hahaha. I'm telling you, it's fine! No matter what I call her...
That doesn't make any difference, apologize!
Hmm? Oh, don't worry about it, we're childhood friends.
and super friendly!
it doesn't change the fact that she's super cute

BLUSH
Uh...
Nick
Crap... I have no idea what kids these days are talking about!!
What, uh...grade are you two in?
Ugh
The first year of Holistic Class.
I feel like an old man...

My name is Sho Nikmi.
Haruka Sakai
Yup.

still all together ...
when we were

The same as us
First year ...

?!

The town is being attacked, and in more than one place!
Let's move!
Wh—What's that?!

...

What... in the world.
Just awful ...

W-Wa... ...ter

Ag... ain

Saki
I know.

If the Fiend gets here, more lives will be lost.
We must meet with Lady Tomiko right away.
...Iko!
Multiple explosions in every part of town have killed many...
...Shiori
Lady Tomiko! Thank goodness!!
I see...
after you fainted from your wounds.
There've been over 300 casualties... We carried you to the Holistic Class infirmary

300 people...

Lady Tomiko of Saki Watanabe is asking to see you in person.
CLATTER
Let her in.
Also, halt the treatment and help me into proper attire.

But Lady!
This will be Saki's final impression of me. I want to look decent.
I won't survive these wounds anyway.
That isn't true!
I can tell...

I was a nurse in my youth.
I'd have you know

Lady Tamiko, your injuries
Excuse us.

?!
A Fiend has appeared.
I have bad news.
More importantly, why are you here?
I'll be fine.

What's going to happen to us?
Everybody ... even the Sun King was killed so easily ...
Sho. I'm scared ...
Hey! Keep it together, you moron.
I told you earlier that this is our chance. If we don't take it, it spells death...
Okay...
If you don't want that, stop crying.
What ...
Hm ?
URRR *SNIF* WAAAH !!
for me.

Lady Tomiko...
Lady Tomiko?
An... Is that so...

I'm... fine...
Are you okay?!

I don't know, but it's clear that Squealer is using the Fiend for his own ends!
Lady Tomiko, if we don't take action now, it'll be too late!
I don't believe this... Thanks to meticulous procedures, not a single child had turned into a Fiend since the last one appeared.
So why at this precise moment?
But Saki,
You're right.

if what you're telling me is the truth,
then there is no action to take.

When our ancestors implanted the shame-death code into our genes,
they also programmed in us a strict aversion to harming humans.
Hence we can't even attack Fiends, who're human in form.
Can't even... attack...?
But there is just one possibility.
!!

I was 22 and was working at the hospital when the Fiend came.
Y-Yes!
Saki, I once told you about the day I met a Fiend...
Do you remember?
Perhaps deranged, the Fiend ...
Nnn...
Such a curious story...
I thought for sure that I would be killed...
I think... *cough* I've caught a cold...
Huh?!
Doc-tor?!
Come this way.

Then ...
!!
just sitting there cursing my own helplessness.
I could only tremble and pray.
Unfortunately we neglected to perform an autopsy on the Fiend, so how the doctor killed it is unknown to this day.
Both Doctor and Fiend were dead.
Doctor ?!
If a Fiend emerged again, we'd surely perish.
And thus the current procedures came into place, to prevent such tragedies in the future.
From that day on, the adults of this town were constantly anxious, not knowing when a child would exhibit Rathman-Claugus Syndrome and become a Fiend.

Do you insist even so, Saki,
that we mustn't dispose of any children ?
...
Was there a hint in that story?

Saki ?!
But that's absurd !
It'd never work !!

Saki ...
Was that doctor
a surgeon ?
That's right.
But ...
Saki, what story

It's the Fiend !!
It-
Every-one! Run away!
?!
RUUU UUUU UNN !!
Wha ...
The Fiend is heading this way!
Lady Tomi-ko ?!
Leave me here and save yourself!
Saki !

...!
Leave me and go!
Hurry up!
ドクッ
ドク
!
ガバッ
Yes!
He may have come up with a way to counter the Fiend!
But!
Susumu! Escort these two to Shise!
...
But
Please, come with me.
My name is Susumu Torige.
Lady Tomiko, we can't leave you!

I do regret not being able to witness the future that you will create...
I truly believe that you are my only worthy successor.
No matter what you have in mind for the town,
Saki

I... no.
Please

I hereby entrust
Kamisu 66 Acre-age to you.

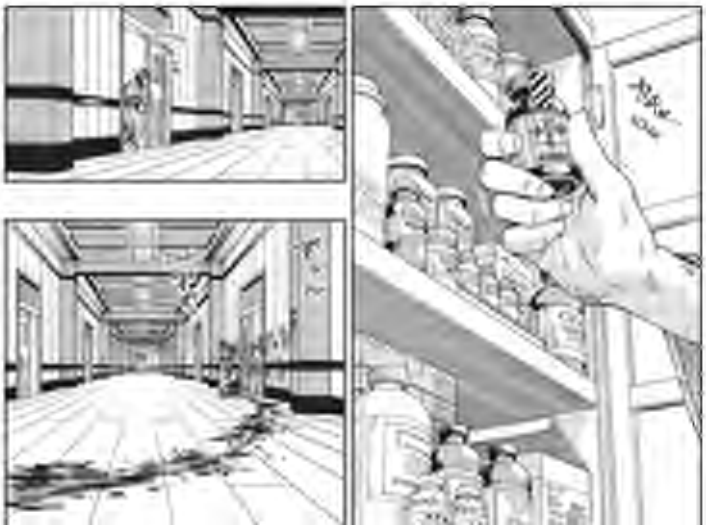
Now go!
Sup
A Friend ?!
Is that true ?!
Ruu uun !!
Reiko... Shun... Maria... Mamoru! They're all...
I used to despise her!
I...

victims of the town that she created!

Still, for our entire lives...

we've been living in a town
she's protected for over two centuries !!
So no matter how much I hate her...

I can't help but be grateful !!



Huu...
Huu...
Huu...

HELP
more...
Huu...
Huu...
Just... a bit...

So don't be crying! Keep facing forward!
We're going to have to join forces with Shisei to stop the Fiend!
Now isn't the time to cry!

Lady Tomiko ...
Act like it!
She trusted you to lead!
Lady Tomiko ...
having all those close to you pass away?
Isn't it lonely? Living for two centuries.
I'm never lonely. Sure, it's painful to watch your loved ones die...
but you see?

They came, matured, had children, breathed their last.
At the same time, I've been able to watch over countless lives.
I have witnessed that miracle. Whole.
This is the ninth generation after the one of my youth.
I've known the parents of everyone living in this town, and their ancestors.

Why would I be lonely
when you're all like my children!
In that case...
isn't it even more painful?
To have to get rid of kids —

A role that exceeded me...
I've killed dear children, protected dear children.
For such a long time...

The Fiend
It's not...a straggler.
This sound ...
Her new town will prove that there was no need to suffer so. I need not wor—
I'm sure Saki will expose the error of my ways.

Father... Mother... Everybody!
Doctor... I did well, right?

Finally, I'm...

?!
Saki ?!
Every-one?!
I'll

You...
Fiend
!!

A...AAA...AGH
Live!!
and then you can die!!
Just a few more minutes
You've lived for over two centuries.

Many theories were brought forward ...
as to how the doctor had slain the Fiend.

It is the face of a Fiend, an enemy of humanity!
Cats of Impurity! Conceal yourselves and mark the face of the being that will show itself!

Final orders !!
These are my
Attack in numbers and exploit any openings!

was only conceivable because the doctor was a surgeon...
The leading theory

This is because doctors slice patients open with a pious intent — to save them.
...but can still perform surgery.
We who beat the shame-death code cannot harm others.
"Hand of a Demon, Heart of a Buddha."

With this poison I will treat the Rahman-Claughlin Syndrome patient... the Fiend!!
Pop
I'll bring myself under that same powerful auto-suggestive state...

Until the final moment, I...
So shall I avenge my youthful days when I could only tremble and pray !!
GUOOOOO

Hand of a Demon, Heart of a Buddha!

the future of this town!
I gift my life to

!!

Fare well,
Kamisu
66
Acreage
...

Now's as good a time as any...
Mr. Tori-gai?
Saki Watanabe! That's precisely why...even if it means opposing Lady Tomiko's will...
I held a deeper respect for Lady Tomiko than anybody else in this town.
Right now, defeating the Fiend and Morph Rats...
...
We can continue this discussion later.
What?!
...Mr. Tori-gai.
I have no intention of letting you lead this town!!

Winning back the future of humanity
is all that I want to focus on!

We have a Fiend in our midst!
Shisei, it's a Fiend!

There he is, Shisei!!

It's time to make a stand! This is our chance!
Sho...

A Fiend...
you say?

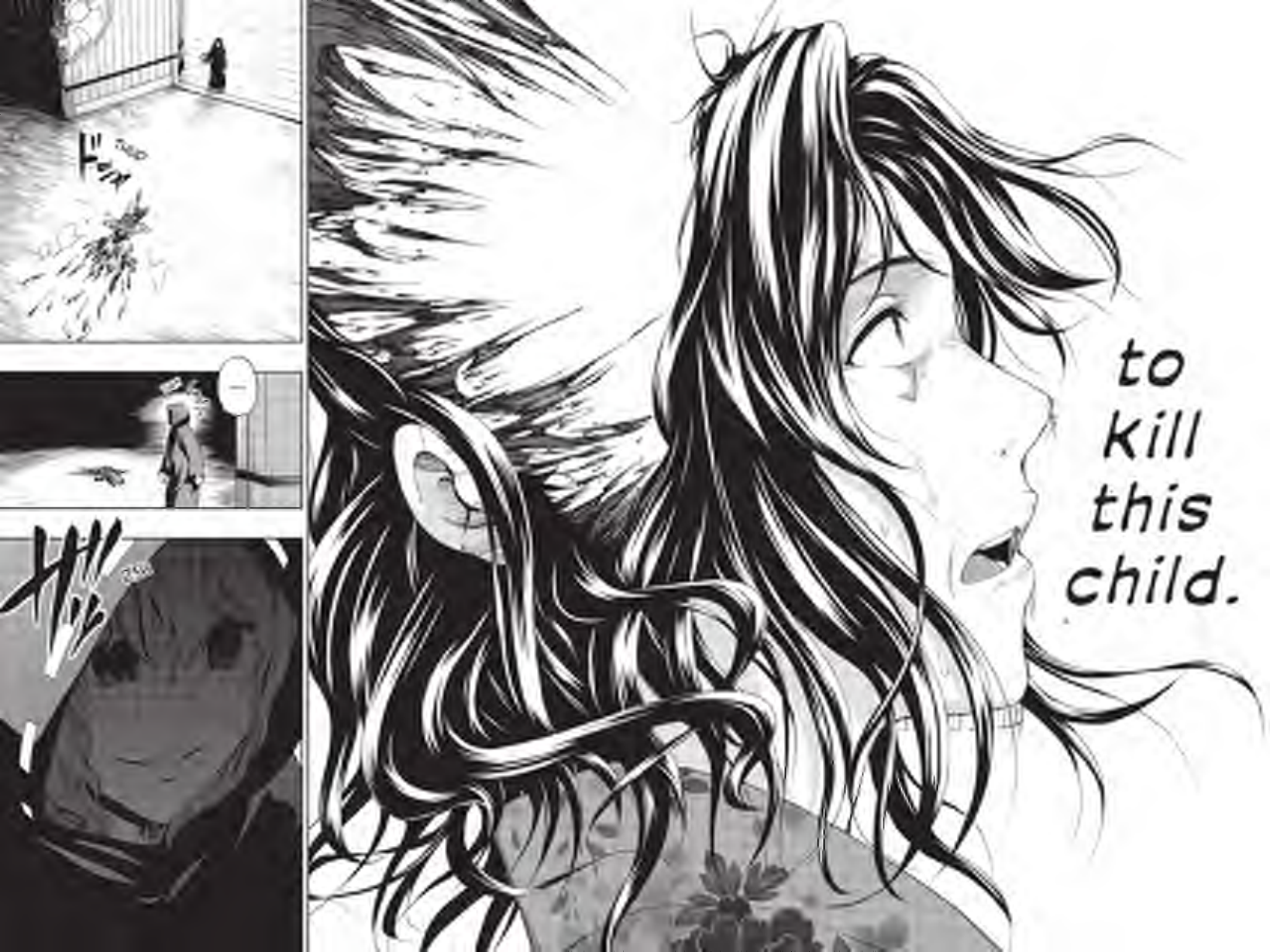
We'll snatch the glory
and take the Fiend's head!!

Who the HELL ARE YOU !!

FOR SOME REASON
AT THAT TIME

MR. NOGUCHI'S FINAL WORDS ECHOED INCESSANTLY IN MY HEAD.

So... that's how it is?
Saki, you don't have it in you...


ドォン
to kill this child.

Kee hee hee
ナナナナナナナ
ROAR
ゴゴゴ

A Fiend. Hmph!
Squealer, you bastard. Whatta move.
BOOM

FROM
THE
NEW
WORLD

CHAPTER 17
CHAGRIN

Our savior! We're good now!!
Shisei !!

A Fiend is nothing in the face of the Strongest !!
Ha ha ha

It's about the Fiend... What if...
Yeah ?
Satoru

I hate to say this, but...

Who the ...
HE-LP ARE YOU!!

Huh ?
No... We have their remains. They're both...
But !
What if the remains were fake? Maybe they're al—
What if Maria or Mamoru became a Fiend
and is back for revenge ?

You may want for your friends to be alive, be it in any shape or form...
Don't be a fool!
The bones were real! I was there when we identified them. Our young are under total watch. It must have become a Fiend in some other town.
Ha ha ha ha ha
?
But I, for one...

My friends and I drank the night away to celebrate the keeping of the town's peace.
I can still recall the day their deaths were confirmed.
I'd never tasted such sweet liquor!
Ha ha ha ha
You creep!
They left town to survive! And you adults are the ones who forced them out!
am sincerely thankful that they
croaked like beasts out in the wild.

Maria's psychological test results weren't perfect, but there was no indication of any risk...
I know the truth.
She was targeted for disposal because the adults were cowards!
And what of it!!
It's all because you lot didn't listen to us!
Serves you right! You fools, letting your buddies go to their deaths!!
He ha ha ha !!

Hmph.
Tsk.

Please, listen up!

For your own safety, please head to the Temple of Purity! That will be our emergency headquarters.
This fairground will be the arena of our battle against the Fiend!

!!
for the...

?

ズドド
?!
—NOOM—
ドド
ドドド
How, all of a sudden ?!
Retreat! Retreat!!
The earth ?!

GROAR
The field is sinking ?!

!!

Where are the rest?! Were they sucked in?!
Why ?!
GROAR

In the air ...?

Yeah!!
They're all Fine!
Shisei saved them!!

?!
but their efforts are futile.
I'm rather impressed with their persistence...

From out of the pit... how?

Look, the walls of the pit are
covered with holes! Were they in there?!

Morph Rats
...

What the hell... Did the Rats dig this?!
It looks like the entrance to a tunnel

Hey! Over here too!

...
From outside the Border Rope? That isn't possible!

Did their forces invade the town using tunnels like these?

Mr. Tenga... We've been inside a Morph Rat colony.
!
Considering how the Rooser Flies have expanded to dozens of times their previous size,
neither a giant pit under the fairground nor a super-long tunnel is unthinkable.
But...

The Fiend's appearance had to have been a part of the plan before they started...
It'd take at least ten years to dig.
But ?

start planning this war?
Exactly when did Squealer

We may have been herded to this location.
The entire town was bombed, yet the path we took here was intact.
?!
There's more?!
There's just one more thing bothering me...
If that's the case
Fighting the Fiend here might be reckless
This is Shael, all right?! The Strongest, even in Lady Tomiko's reckoning
Ha
Ha ha ha ha! Don't be such a fool!
Wh-- What?
!!
AA AA AG HH ..

I-It's here...
ざわっ
AAGH
No-mono sto-
H-Help me!
SQUEEZE
Run away, now!
Sho! Haru-ka!
Are you crazy?!
I'll stay here and see this fight out!
The Fiend. What do we do?!
No! We're staying too!

SPLATTER
BOMB

It's the Fiend! RUUUN!!
AAA AAA HHH

Is that
!!

No, please. Hold...
Ah...
The duel!
It's starting!

the fate of our kind!!
that will chart
Help me!
Gah
Ahh
Bah
BAGUM
BAGUM
Bilk
Gah
"I'll kill you all..."
...
You're in the non-humans section. Can you understand it?
Shut it just speak in Morse Rat ??
Gkyo kwee
...

Ge
ki
ik
Kye
kye
kye
kye

Heh
heh
Ha
ha
ha
ha

HA
HA
HA
KYE
KYE
KY-
EK

A screen of dust?!
Gee
?!
BOKE

?!
Shisei... has cloned himself ?!

Gya !!
Gkyaa...
Gee !!
G...
Heheh Ha ha
Heh heh
As a magick user...
!
Is that all?

you score rock-bot-tom.
SCORE
BAM
BAM
BAM
KUH
It's over!!

STUP

Ngh
Urk
Gya !!
RAPUT
—
C-Come on, finish it already.
Wh-What's wrong, Shiori ?
Humans can't even attack a Fiend...
In the end... can no one overcome the aversion to intraspecies violence etched into our genes?

Not even Shisei stands a chance against a Fiend !
Kye keke keke
ドド
ハヂ
Kamisu 66 Acreage... Lady Tomiko's town!
No... this can't be...
Are we to be destroyed by a single Fiend?!

Match-lock guns!! Far away!?
The ones who fled are being shot!?
ドドド

BAM
BOOM
BOOM
BOOM

Sh-
She...
sob

Kamisu 66 Acreage will not perish! It just can't! It's eternal!
Ahh... This isn't real! It isn't, it isn't "

We can't... stop the Fiend!!
There's nothing we can do...

Kamisu 66 Acre-age to you.
I hereby entrust

is done for!
Our town ...

ZUN

Cats of Impurity ?!

Hold on, as they

!

To attack the Fiend ?!
waiting for an opening ?
A way to attack the Fiend !!
This is it!

All right! We're going to assist these Cats!
They're on our side !!
We can beat the Fiend !!
!
Gee !!
!!

Pkyo rhik !!
Pkyo rhik !!
7 Cats
Pyi...
Do the!
This way, Fiend !
?!
Lady Tomiko released them !!
As I'd hoped ...

Yes!
Let's go!!

I'd never dreamed Cats of Impurity would aid us...
Yup. It sucks.

I beg you. The town
Please save our town...

these damn cats are looking like our saviors to me!!
I can't believe ...

Pkyo-
rbik
!!
Pkyo-
rbik
!!
Pkyo-
rbik
!
Pkyo-
rbik
!

Pi
!!

End
of the
line.
!!

Pkyo
rbiii
iik!!

"Pkyarbik"
...
"Help me"
...?

ぼこっ
GNOR
ぶぼ
ZWOP
ぼこ
GWOP
ぼこぶ
GNAK

The Morph Rats shielded the Fiend ?!

PAAAA

There's no hope ?!

the cats of Impurity
have been wiped out?!

Ngh
Jump into the pit!!
Quickly, while the Fiend's busy killing me!!
Ugh
H-His neck...

It's over... now.
Damn, Damn it...
Even Shiori...
Ah... Aah...

But I! Am the protector of this town! The Strongest Magick User!!
Hurry... Get away from here! I can't break free of its magick at this point!

ZZZZZZ

At least allow me
to give my life to save you!!
GRAB
GRAB
KRAK

Satoru! Stand up, we're leaving !!

WOOSH

!!

No matter where we run, nobody can stop the Fiend
It'll chase after us... and kill us!!
Don't you see, it's pointless !!
And then what...
?!

If you do, then
I thought you felt the same way?
Satoru... I want to keep living, with you, no matter what may await us...

We are still alive !!
don't just give up !!
GAAAH
Sorry, let's go!!

I felt as though I had to see
thought to do that, I know not.
Why I
his face...

ず
ぶ
ろ。

What
I
saw
first
was
...

an ex-
plosion
and
blazing
red hair
that I'd
missed
so...
of
curly
locks.

AA
AA
AA
AH
AGAH
Ah

No
mistake
Hya hya
kya hya
hya hya

It's
Maria
and
Mamoru's
orphan
child—

At the same time, I was finally able to accept it.
How... Why?

I really had just Satoru left...

...
I'm fine...
Saki...
Let's head to the Temple of Purity!
Our family and friends may have already taken refuge there.

FROM
THE
NEW
WORLD

I was useless... Shit!
Sho...
CHAPTER 18
TRUE OBJECTIVE

We have no plan.
But...
Why did Maria and Mamoru's child turn into a Fiend?
Even Shisei fell to the Fiend...
It's... really over...

we'll find a way to take back the town! Before giving into despair,
let's focus on making our way to the Temple of Purity alive!

What a
strong person
Is this what Lady Tomiko called the quality of a successor?
How can she still have such fire in her eyes?!

Saki... What about you?
Got it.
Be ready to kill it, even if it's their child
Fiends cannot be saved from their nature.
Sa-baru!

Look, over there!
to kill Maria's kid?
Can you really bring yourself

A Morph Rat!
Is it passed out?

Bi!
Pick

We'll catch it!
It's missing an arm! Did it cut it off on its own to escape Shiori's grip?
And those clothes indicate a high rank! It might speak human!

We fight for the grand cause of ending your tyranny!
K-Kyuk kyuk
You devils!

You understand what I am saying, correct? Answer my questions honestly!
Why have you turned against humans?

To risk extinction over such a trifle is—
Tyranny? We've simply monitored you.

And yet... our lack of magick has robbed us of dignity!
"A trifle"?! We are beings that possess high intelligence! We are your equals, all told!!

So it's true! The Mortal Rats and the Fiend are working together
Under the hero of our liberation, Squealer and our Messiah, we will not fail!
We will rid the earth of you and take back our pride!

Give up, You devils!
Our Messiah
ZSHK ZLIK
ZSH
Foot-steps... The Fiend?!
ZSH
Kykye kyekye
ZLIKK
!

will purge you from this land!

SMACK
Did you suffer harm?
A spear?!
!
And... Mr. Inui?!
Kiro-maru?!

We were classmates in the Holistic Class.
You know each other?
Susu-mu!
Inui! So you survived ?!

We'll head to emergency HQ, the Temple of Purity! We need to plan our next move there!
Right... What will you do?
Mr. Inui, the Fiend...
I met Kiromaru in town... We decided to exterminate the Rats hiding underground.

Gods... It is with a heavy heart that I inform you...
Mr. Inui?
Is all not well at the Temple ?
...
HQ ...

The place ...
has burned to the ground.
?!
No way! You mean, Saint Mushin too!!
That can't be!
The Temple was hidden away! A bunch of Rats couldn't have found its location!
How in the world ...
...

Rata
Bata
Bata
Bata

Gya
Pyi kya

You Rats, don't get cocky!
we've nothing to fear from bullets!
We may not be Shisei or Kofu,
but we're an elite squad of magick users second only to them! As long as we concentrate,

Everyone alive will protect our dear home!
Shisei himself must be fighting on somewhere!
We will pick off the Morph Rats whilst avoiding the Fiend

?!
Brief me.
More down?! Tsk...
Gy kur Kiki ki

Huh ?!
Don't bore me...
What of the spoils of war ?
We have n-nearly taken over the town... Guerilla attacks, however, are proving a handful ...
S-Sir ?!

...
Very nice.
H-
Here,
sir.

Oh,
and
about
those
guests
Torture information
out of them.
They are
expendable.
Bring
the loot
into the
colony
right
away.
And
the
cap-
tives
?
ion
of
them

My troops
gave their lives
to save mine...
But as I fled,
the Fiend was
watching me.
It wanted us to
suffer. Instead
of killing us with
magick, it took
our weapons and
had the Rogue
Flies perform the
slaughter.

why
were
your
forces
wiped
out?
mary,
kino-
maru.

The
Fiend
joined
battle.
Twas
simple
as that.

Afterwards, I was found by gods who kept me jailed at the Temple...
I braced myself for death, but the Fiend spared me.
!!
I was most likely not worth killing.
By the way, Lord Inui... You were telling me of a horrible sight that you witnessed...
After a sudden deafening roar, it burned down in no time at all...
Right... a few days after setting out to hunt the Robber Flies,
we ran into a Fiend.
What on earth could you have seen, Inui?!
I headed over to the nursery since it was closest ...
Having survived, I hurried back to warn the town,
but the enemy had taken over. I kept myself low and inched forward. I finally got there today
The rest of my group neared, thinking it a mere child, and were killed.

Within I only found corpses of the staff.
The fiend... all dead ...
Crap, too late !!
what was going down
but
Thinking that somebody raised the infants, I ran out.
!!
Waa ahh Waa ah!!

Of course, I had heard rumors that they possess such habits ...
but still ...

Inui ?
What are you talking about?

I saw
WAAAAHHHH

to brand an infant's fore-head
WAAAHH!
using a heated rod
WAAAHH
WAAAHH
a Morph Rat...
The character Aku (meaning "evil") appears in both Akuma ("Devils," as the Morph Rats have come to call humans) and Aniki ("Friend")

Branding human children as well?
How twisted are they ?!

Aah
Urgh
The same treatment as the overseas Rats...

Squeaker won't get away with this!

Damn Rats! Of all things, they harm babies...

!

Huh?! What do you mean ?!
'Tis far more dire than that.
Gosh, please try to stay calm.

Could it be ?!
Yes... My goodness.
Huh ?
Squealer's true objective from the start was to capture infants!
Wha ?!
Don't... tell me
...
...

Maria and Mamoru's baby...
First

When those children grow up and become able to use magick...
It's far worse than just doubling each time.
They reared a Fiend to assault our town and acquire more infects...

The Japanese islands... no...
Their army of Fiends will invade other towns and multiply their ranks
they'll cross the sea and eliminate the entire human race!
That's the true goal of this war!
The Morph Rats' world empire!

That is Squealer's grand design!

...

We've lured them... hehah.
Gee Pygi
It's almost dawn!
Look! There's something there.
?!
Aye aye!
Once the sun rises we'll enjoy even more of an advantage!
This area will be ours soon! Don't let up!
What is that ?
...
!
No ...

DOOM

NO, NO WAY!
This isn't happening! Sister Lady Tomiko too?!
NOOOOO!
Focus! We're being aimed at!
This smell... gun-powder! It's a trap!
!
oo oo
OOOO!
Ah...
Lady Tomiko... Kamiu 66 Acreage... slain.
The lives of many depend upon us!
Stand up, now!
AAAAAHH

BOM
BOM
BOM

al-
ready
lost.
Heh heh
The
town
was

So like Lord Squealer, crushing the devils' resistance using his road.
Clean up the bodies and lure the next group of guerillas here.
Good work.

the Messiah descended on our intro Squealer's watch..
The devils ran out of luck the moment!

but to be snuffed out like this?!
Do we have no choice

When the Temple burned down, I was released from my cell by your parents, who asked me— were I to meet you—
Lady Saki Watanabe.

this package.
to hand you

Yes. They went back into town. They have most likely passed ...
... Oh.

They set out for the library to destroy documents of a vital nature...
My mother and father?! Where are they now?!

!

Tak.
I was told in no uncertain terms not to deliver the box to any other soul.
Kiromaru! Why did you keep this from me?!

What's inside?

A box... and a letter?

...To my dear Saki,

I have just heard that a Fiend has appeared and that there have been many casualties.
What follows are some details of the only known means to counter a Fiend—

one of the Past Civiliza-tion's weapons of mass destruc-tion,
namely the Psycho Buster.

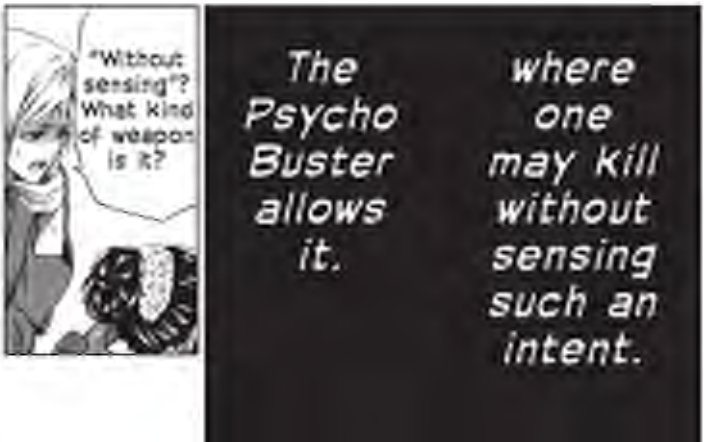
Past ... Civi-liza-tion ?
Weapons of mass destruc-tion?

The Psycho Buster ...
...

What?! A way to counter the Fiend?!

To deceive oneself is a difficult task.
Many tools and drugs were tested in the hopes of occluding murderous intent, but none of them worked.
are studies on ways to circumvent sharply declining the aversion to killing, to permit murder.
Among the information known only to librarians that not even Lady Tomoe is privy to, dreadfully enough...

A method... a way was found.
But at last


"Without sensing"? What kind of weapon is it?
The Psycho Buster allows it.
where one may kill without sensing such an intent.

We should be able to get there once what the box contains is operative... or so the letter says.
At the ancient address provided below...
The letter doesn't go into that, but it's stored in Ain...Minato Ward... Tokyo?

Is that...
Yup!!
Open the box!

a false white-cape?

After a lengthy hibernation, the device needs to be bathed in plenty of sunlight...
...Found in underground warehouse number 4 excavated at the base of Tsukuba Mountain...
Solar-powered self-propelling archive version SP-SPTA-6000.
No... It's smaller and its shape is different... A pseudo false whitecape?
There's a manual!

The lethal demon realm, Tokyo.
To-kyo
So... once this is working, we'll be able to find the Psycho Buster?

What?!
That is false.
They say it's a demon realm where no living thing can survive!
I've explored the place just once.
If we're going there

On our expedition, a third of us died.

But no doubt that it is a deadly place.

If I may accompany you, I can help you steer clear of danger!

I never forget the lay of a land I have visited!

To save our Queen and carve Squealer to pieces.... That is why I chose to live on, even sacrificing my troops!

He has abducted from my colony our Queen, our mother and lifeblood!

B-But you're a Rat, after all!!

If my loyalty is not enough

I ask that you believe in my loathing for Squealer!

Tokyo
...
Tokyo
...
If we went to Tokyo
we could derail Squealer's plans... and save humanity!
You have a strong will, Saki.
No matter what sorrows life may put in your path, your strength will allow you to soldier on and achieve your goals.

Please defeat the Fiend using its power and save our town.
If the Psycho Buster exists, I have no doubt that you will find it.

and will watch over you wherever you may go.
We love you deeply from the bottoms of our hearts
Sincerely, your mother, Mizuho Watanabe

This is truly
our final hope !!

Let's go! To Tokyo !!

CHAPTER 19
THE GLEAM OF TWILIGHT

Huff... Huff...

Are you OK?
Buck up, this is our last chance.
Y-Yeah

We're almost at my house! Once we've prepared to go to Tokyo, we'll take a break.
Want to get on my back?
N-No, I'm fine!

The two students aren't coming to Tokyo—
we're all on the same page about that, right?

Haruka... Haruka Sakai
I just want to be sure...

Wait a minute!
It may be too dangerous for first years, true. Novices at magick...
Please, hold on a second! We can—
That's... most likely for the best...
Our magick may be weak, but we can still be of help!
We're coming too!
...
We have to go... for her!
Ka, I'm telling you!
Perhaps you, but it could be too much for her.
Let's take them.
!
We want to take part in the fight for our town!
I beg of you!!

I'm sure their bravery will shine through in Tokyo as well!
These two stood and fought faced with the Fiend! They're fine warriors!

Yes, of course! We'll do our best!!

?
—

I have some tea, over in this room.
We'll see if my clothes fit you, Haruka...
I'm glad... It's on the outskirts so I'd hoped it might be unharmed!

...

Ah! How could I ever thank you.
Can you treat your wounds by yourself?

I will stand guard here.
Kino-maru!

...

...

Sure!
We'll be changing in here, so don't come out until we tell you.

Sho ?
Y- Yes!

Um, Ms. Seki... these pictures
They were drawn by a friend of mine. That's me and another friend... I was about your age.
Sadly, they've both died.
Huh ?!

The girl in that picture... Maria, was targeted for disposal. She left town with a boy called Mamoru to survive.
H-How did this happen ?
It's bizarre. I'm having to kill my best friends' kid.
...The Fiend must be their child.

I wonder if they were able to find happiness at least for a little while ...
...
Come here, Haruka. I'll untie your sash.
Oh uh okay...
Ha-ru-ka.

You're hiding something from me, aren't you?
Ms. Sakai!!

I'm up for disposal too!!
Please help me!

Yes ...
Is that true ?!
!!
!!
Shun?!
the adults from getting ...
Keep ...
Reiko ?!
Maria?!
rid of me !!
Mamoru?!

Mr. Tongai! Thank you for taking our side back there!
Haha, I simply said what needed to be said.
BAFUN!

I was so lonely when he left me behind to join the Holistic Class...
Sho and I have been friends since we were little... I didn't have many friends, so we spent a lot of time together
Hey!
Slow poke! Hahaha!
You're late!
Y-Yup.
Uh... I-I'm Haruka Sakai...
a-and... I'll be... in your c-class from...
パチ
パチ
パチ
パチ
パチ

AND WHEN I COULD, MY CONTROL WAS THE WORST...
Tsk.
Ahh...
Ah...
I WAS THE LAST TO BE ABLE TO USE MAGICK TOO...

Right... And just recently...
You can't control your magick ?!

...
Wh-Who is it ?
'K.
The Sun King asked me to help him out, so go home without me.
It got dark so fast..

Who's there ?
!!
Why?! Help!!
What?! What?!
Huh
Huh

Sho, help me!
Never mind, let's get to your mom's!
Is that the rumored Dupe Cat?! Why did it attack Haruka?
Sho! Sho!!
B-But Haruka was jumped by one ...
Sho, you silly boy.
Wha ...
Dupe Cats are just a myth.
It must be a mis-take.

You must have
just been seeing things, yes?
What the hell is
I guess... I can't be allowed to exist?
If even mom and dad think so, then I should
Well, if that's how it goes.

Huh ??
I won't let adults do as they please !!
will you
keep on living as long as I wanted you to?

But watching you taught me that losing hope and feeling down doesn't cut it.
From then on, Sho started taking risks to protect me... I had no idea what to do.

Even if we succeed, and the town goes back to normal ...
I'm begging you!

If my current self had stood at my side back then...
I've always imagined what could have been
Before my very eyes!
This is it!
rid of me!!
... please don't get

I'll save you !!
I swear !!
Ah...
This time, for sure !!

Thank you so much !!
Um, Ms. Saki ...
Um...
My butt... Why are you ...
Hmm ?

I see
Huh?! I've heard that they do, but I haven't yet...
You seem stressed... I'm helping you relax. You've done it with your friends, haven't you?

Mh! Mnh...
Mh
Then I'll take good care of you
Ah
Ha.
Ash.

What do you think? Does that woman have what it takes?

and she asked Saki Watanabe to take over like she'd said.
What?!
Inui... Lady Tomiko has passed away...

Heh heh
Haa... Haa...
Ha.
You're so cute, Haruka
Your face... and the rest of your body is flushed all red ♡
Ms. Saki !!!!!
She does have what it takes.
Every time I worked with her, I grew more convinced... Well, what do you think?

It feels like the drawings are watching us...
It feels... weird...
Ha
Ha
Ha
Ha
I can't—
Ha
Ah... Sa... Saki...
Hmm? You can't what?
'Cause you're being watched, huh?
Hmm, weird like how?
Ha
Ha
Ha
No! Don't be mean...
Heh heh heh
Ha
Ha

THERE'S NO WAY THAT WOMAN CAN PROTECT OUR TOWN
YOU DAMN FOOL !!

Now you like doing this, don't you?
Mmm, Saki ♡

We should take care.
?
Kiromaru. Didn't you find it odd?

Are you trying to suggest that he killed Mizuho Watanabe and stole it?!
!! Oh my
What human would trust a Morph Rat with a top-secret document ?
At the end of the day, he's a Morph Rat... We should look out for signs of treachery.
I have no evidence... Kiromaru is a famously gifted strategist, so he probably won't slip up.
Did you catch a cold? Your face is red.
Wh-what? Nothing happened, please?
?
Yo- Yup.
Let's do this, Haruka. If we can become heroes, they should rescind your disposal order.
We're ready to go.

ピピピ
PIISS

I'm glad that the seafaring ship was intact.
ズバババ

Do you have a plan?!
There will most likely be a cordon along the way.
We'll sail down the Tone River to the Pacific!

smash through using magick, and rush towards the ocean at full speed please!
...No, none whatsoever!! Pray that the Fiend is not present.

Yeah!!

All right! Let's go!!

Tokyo, you say ?!
Gy-kya !!
WAP
We'll embark promptly! Ready ships!

Ah!
The pseudo false whitecaps isn't ready, and the sun's setting... We'll have to wait 'til tomorrow.
Nothing on our tail for now.
So that's Tokyo...
I can see it!
Look!
A boat?!
ボト
TWO
These baits inhabit the Tokyo underground. They've come out to feed.
All of them?!
It's nothing like the Tokyo of a thousand years ago that I saw...
...
Wh-what the hell?!
Eek

It's like some giant dra-gon ...

This is Tok·yo today !!!

ONE MORE THING.
MARIA'S CHILD...
JUST SO WE COULD LOSE
UNTO A LAND BEARING NO TRACE OF ITS FORMER GLORY,
DESPITE HAVING LOST MUCH WE ARRIVED

CONTINUED IN VOLUME 6

Today I'll be hosting this segment with
...
...
my good friend Shun!
Hi, everyone! My name is Reiko, and I used to be an ordinary girl! Now I'm a ghost!

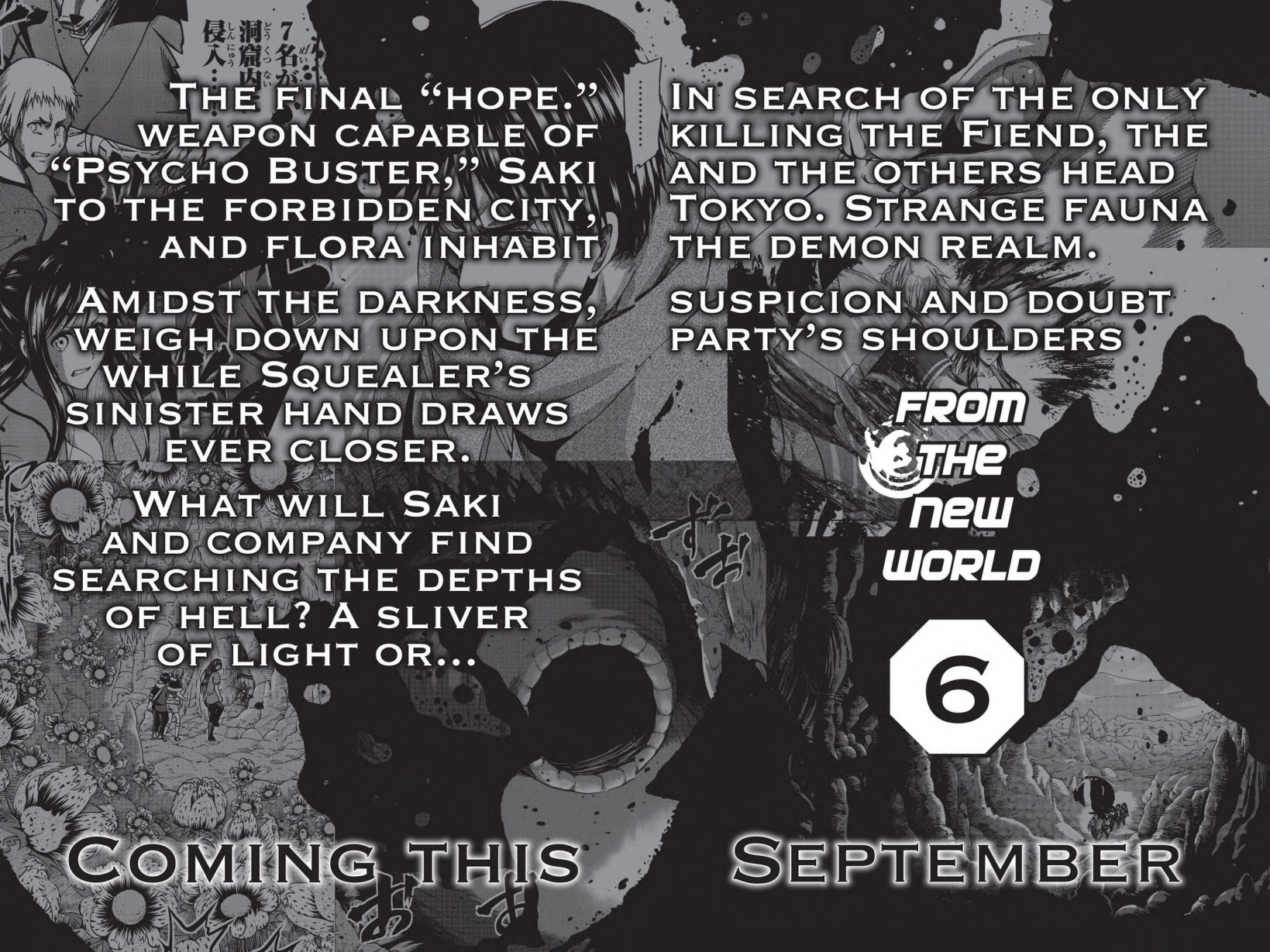
Oh. Right.
I can't... I'm a ghost...
Cheer up!
...
Shun... we're live, put in some effort.

Nope!
I guess not.
Think positively! Saki only loves Ryo because she loves you so much! She's simply doing everything she wanted to do with you with Ryo instead.
Is that even worse?! Hang in there!!
And Saki is smitten! I can't cheer up!!
I mean, this is too cruel!! I'm not just forgotten, I've been replaced by this Ryo guy!!
OMG

Ryo is a victim, just like you! Don't badmouth him!
You're right... I'll be careful.
Shun, let's stay in character !!
Ryo, you prick... You used to be just a lowly, lumpable guy inferior to me in every way...
!
Ryo has done no wrong
No, no!
Shun, no! Be good now!
Bwa aaa aaa !!
L-Let's kiss
Look, while we were talking
DAMN RYO, EAT YOUR HEART OUT!!!
OH HELL YEAH !!!!
Stay in char-acter !
Reiko ?!

Wow, that was some rigorous stuff.
JUST OBSERVED MARIA AND SAKI'S "SESSION"
GLOAN
ほわ
ほわ
...
You're a lot more cheerful now that you're dead, Reiko.
DAY OF THE FESTIVAL
We~ll, I don't have to worry about my future... or have a future.
I have no reason to put on a brave face anymore...
You've gotten gloomy, Shun.
...
Whoa! Saki's coming this way!
No way! Wow!
ZAKK
ZAKK
BOM
Watching the show alone is boring ...
Sigh So lonely.
Right here! I'm right here!!
It's hard to watch! Yikes, why did I have to die?!

Oops... Does she, like, see us?!
You're kidding! Wh-Wh-What do we do?!
W-We should try to smile pleasantly at least.
O-OK !!
SMILE
She's crying! Don't cry, Saki!!
Whee
Looks like they remember us now.
I'm glad... they're so awesome.
Maybe I should ascend ?
Yeah ...
If I do now, I get some freebies.
FWIP
Special Offer!
Wha ?!
THE END?


7名が
洞窟内
侵入…
The final "hope." weapon capable of "Psycho Buster," Saki to the forbidden city, and flora inhabit
Amidst the darkness, weigh down upon the while Squealer's sinister hand draws ever closer.
What will Saki and company find searching the depths of hell? A sliver of light or...
In search of the only killing the Fiend, the and the others head Tokyo. Strange fauna the demon realm.
suspicion and doubt party's shoulders
FROM THE new WORLD
6
Coming this September

From the New World Volume 5

KODANSHA COMICS Digital Edition

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